

Remarks

Applicants thank the Examiner for her careful consideration of the application.

Claims 1, 3 – 21 are pending in this application.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC § 103

The Examiner rejected claims 1, 3, 4, 6 – 8, 10 - 12 and 15 under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over the Word reference in view of Shima (US Patent No. 6,676,309) (“Shima”). Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections.

Applicant submits that claim 1 as amended is allowable over the references cited. Claim 1 has been amended to more precisely claim that a window is automatically generated in response to receiving printing instructions including printing multiple copies from a software application. Furthermore, the limitation of claim 5 has been added to claim 1, further distinguishing it over the references cited by the Examiner. The Examiner also rejected claim 5, but Applicants will respond to the rejection of this limitation in Applicants’ response to the rejection of claim 5.

Claims 3, 4, and 6 – 8 should be allowed if claim 1 is allowed as claims 3, 4, and 6 – 8 depend from claim 1.

In claim 10, Applicants recite automatically displaying a feature to a user informing the user that the software application may have a problem printing multiple copies in response to receiving a plural number of copies of the document to be printed. This limitation is similar to that in amended claim 1 and original claim 5. In the Examiner’s rejection of claim 5, the Examiner acknowledges that the combination of Word and Shima do not disclose this limitation. Therefore, claim 10 should be allowed over the combination of these two references. Claim 10 should probably have been grouped with claim 5 for the purposes of rejection. Please consider Applicants’ argument for amended claim 1 (original claim 5) in response to the rejection of claim 5 as also applying to this limitation of claim 10.

The Examiner rejected claim 5 under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over the Word reference in view of Shima, and further in view of Fein et al. (US Patent No. 5,565,608) (“Fein”). Claim 5 has been canceled and its limitation added to claim 1, from which it was

originally dependent. Therefore, Applicant will respond to the rejection to claim 1 as the same rejection would now apply to claim 1 as amended. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

The Examiner should withdraw the rejection to claim 1 because the combination of references does not teach all the limitations of claim 1. Specifically, the Examiner has not shown displaying a window to a user that informs the user that the software application may have a problem printing multiple copies. The Examiner asserts that this limitation is shown by the Fein reference. However, the Fein reference appears to discuss customizing error messages conveyed to a recipient to be used instead of or in conjunction with technical error messages. The flowchart identified by the Examiner in Fig. 4 of Fine shows a method where step 420 determines whether a custom alert feature is enabled. If a custom alert feature is not enabled, a conventional alert message is displayed. In claim 1, Applicants recite a potential error message not tied to any pre-existing error message. The Examiner has not identified any portion of Fein associated with the generation of novel error messages. Therefore, the Examiner should allow claim 1 over the cited combination of references. This argument applies to claim 10 as well.

Claims 13 and 14 are rejected as being unpatentable under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over the Word reference in view of Shima, and further in view of Official Notice. Claims 13 and 14 should be allowed if claim 10 is allowed as claims 13 and 14 depend from claim 10.

Allowable Subject Matter

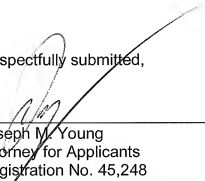
The Examiner allowed claims 16 – 21. The Examiner objected to claim 9 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but stated it would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Applicants have amended claim 9 in independent form, so claim should be allowed as well.

Conclusion

No additional fee is believed to be required for this amendment. However, the undersigned Xerox Corporation attorney hereby authorizes the charging of any necessary fees, other than the issue fee, to Xerox Corporation Deposit Account No. 24-0025. This also constitutes a request for any needed extension of time and authorization to charge all fees therefor to Xerox Corporation Deposit Account No. 24-0025.

A telephone interview is respectfully requested at the number listed below prior to any further Office Action, i.e., if the Examiner has any remaining questions or issues to address after this paper. The undersigned will be happy to discuss any further Examiner-proposed amendments as may be appropriate.

Respectfully submitted,



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JMY/rjh